jail are verified and surveillance is kept.

(vi) History Sheets of habitual criminals are maintained and their movements are kept under surveillance.

Waiting List for Telephone connections in Arunachal Pradesh and Delhi

224. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of persons in the waiting lists for telephone connections in Arunachal Pradesh and Delhi so far; and

(b) whether any steps have been taken by Government to provide telephone connections expeditiously?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The number of persons in the waiting list for telephone connections as on 30-6-1991 is 185 in Arunachal Pradesh and 318891 in Delhi.

(b) Yes, Sir. The draft 8th Plan proposals have been drawn up with the objectives that by the end of the Eighth Plan it will be possible to provide telephones, practically on demand, in telephone exchanges of less than 5000 lines capacity and to reduce waiting period, on an average, to one year in telephone exchanges of more than 5000 lines capacity.

Indo-Japanese Rafting Expedition in Arunachal Pradesh

225. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the aim and object of recent joint Indo-Japanese rafting expedition in the Siang river of Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) whether it was a scientific research expedition or geological survey of Himalayan region; and

(c) when the agreement was signed between the two countries for such expedition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) It was a joint expedition of Indo-Tibetan Border Police and Himalayan Association of Japan led by the Indian leader. It was an adventure rafting expedition.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No such agreement has been signed.

Construction of a Hill Highway in Tamil Nadu

226. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to construct a Hill Highway in Tamil Nadu during the Eighth Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Compensation for the assets left behind by Indian evacuees in Iraq and Kuwait

227. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the steps so far taken by Government to secure compensation for the assets left behind by Indian evacuees in Iraq and Kuwait; what was the total assets left behind by the evacuees; and the total compensation secured so far?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): Under UN Security Council resolutions Iraq is liable to pay compensation to foreign governments,

their nationals and corporations who have suffered loss damage or inquiry as a result of its unlawful invasion and occupation of Kuwait. Information in respect of claims by Indian nationals is being collected and will be transmitted in a consolidated form, to the United Nations Compensation Commission for processing. As regards recoverable assets left in Kuwait, Indian nationals have been advised to get in touch with the Government of Kuwait as well as private employers and all possible assistance will be rendered to our nationals to recover such assets.

National Highway Bridges in Tamil Nadu damaged by Natural calamities

228. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of National Highway bridges in Tamil Nadu which were damaged due to floods and storms during the last three years;

(b) whether there is any proposal to repair these bridges;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the estimated cost thereof; and

(d) the number of new bridges on National Highways which are proposed to be constructed during 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE SURFRCE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No National Highway bridge has been damaged due to floods and storms during the last three years in Tamil Nadu.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) Nine bridges are included in the Annual Plan 1991-92 for sanction.

Persons killed in road Accidents

229. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 55,000 persons were killed in road accidents in the country last year, (1990);

(b) whether the number of such deaths was much higher in 1991 than 1990; if so, what are the figures in respect of Union Territory of Delhi, Rajasthan and Haryana States till May, 1991 as compared to rest of the country; and

(c) what new steps Government propose to undertake for expansion/construction of new road sections from Delhi to Jaipur and from Delhi to Karnal which have a very high density of commercial and tourist traffic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) According to latest information available, around 53,300 persons were killed in road accidents in the country during 1990.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) In respect of Delhi-Jaipur Road (NH No. 8), the following works for widening/extension of road are provided in the Annual Plan 1991-92:—

(1) Construction of Parallel Service Roads Cost Rs. 1.50 crores.

(2) Widening of 4—lane km. 36.74 Cost Rs. 35.00 crores.

(3) Widening to—4 lane km. 162.5 to 231.0 cost Rs. 77.97 crores.

In respect of Delhi-Karnal Road (N.H. No. 1), work on widening the 4—lane carriage between Murthal to Karnal is in progress. The following works of widening/extension of road are provided in the Annual Plan 1991-92:—

(1) Widening to 6—lane (Km. 8.50 to 15.00) Cost Rs. 3.00 crores.

(2) Providing additional two lane in Km. 15.00 to 21.00—Cost Rs. 3.00 crores.